

23 May 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 23 May 1979

The Director was at his EOB office; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

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Lehman advised that we don't overlook the importance of the growing dilemma being faced by the Soviets in Afghanistan. They must decide on the continuing shoring up of the existing government and its ability to deal with insurgency or risk a new government that would be more Afghan than Communist. The Soviets would also have to consider military initiatives at an even higher risk.

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McMahon reported on the difficult food situation in Vietnam--students at a major school for petroleum industry management were observed as being undernourished and falling asleep in class. He reported also that the Panamanians have an apparent manpower shortage, e.g., light manning at the Port of Balboa and other ports. This could present serious difficulties for Canal management when the treaty goes into effect.

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Hetu reported that Jack Anderson called this morning regarding his reporting (attached) of an NID item on SALT verification which alleges a willingness by the Soviets to cheat. Bowie said that he does not believe the Anderson item came from an NID because NFAC inspection revealed no specific reference in NIDs dating back to 1975. Hetu said that he also had a call from Anderson a couple of days ago on a purported Top Secret codeword document in his possession dated 1975. This document is not related to the aforementioned item.

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Hitz reported on his office's busy schedule of briefings and meetings this week with Congressional elements, including: a Headquarters breakfast briefing for Representatives Skelton and Gephardt of Missouri on the Saudi oil situation; a briefing on SALT verification for C. Sorrels, SFRC Consultant;; another Cranston luncheon briefing on SALT by [redacted] will attend for Hitz); and a briefing by NIO/NP [redacted] on Pakistan's nuclear capabilities to the HFAC Subcommittee. Mr. Carlucci asked Bowie to be certain that [redacted] is acutely aware of the sensitivities on this topic.

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Mr. Carlucci reported that he has asked the Director of Personnel to begin a study on the Civil Service Reform Act. Mr. Carlucci asked that each Directorate designate a representative to the study task force and that Jim Taylor should also provide participation. It was suggested that task force representatives be at the GS-15/16 level and that they be knowledgeable of the Agency's personnel system. It was agreed that a single representative should be provided for both RMS and CTS. Mr. Carlucci asked that the names of all representatives be passed to Harry Fitzwater.

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At Mr. Carlucci's request, Taylor explained the difficult situation at hand in preparing an appropriate appeal to the House-Senate budget conference regarding the 1980 Contingency Reserve Fund. This precipitated a lengthy discussion on all aspects of the problem centering mainly on two issues-- the need for fund replenishment beyond [] provided in the current conference report and the annual fund level. Mr. Carlucci asked Taylor to continue work in developing a best strategy for appeal to the conference report. []

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Attachments

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